

Amusements and Meetings Co-Night.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1879.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—A grand review was held in Toronto yesterday in honor of the Governor-General.

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from the whirlpool of party politics. It is not to be supposed that he would entertain the idea of managing so gigantic a commercial and engineering undertaking as a ship canal between the Atlantic and the Pacific if he had any ambition or expectancy of serving another term in the White House. He writes that he has given two days consideration to the matter. He is no doubt well informed as to the drift of political currents at home, and in those two days of reflection must have weighed the chances of nomination and election next year. Probably his conclusion was that a life position as the head of the Canal Company would be more to his taste than four years more of the Chief Magistracy, even if the latter were fully assured. At all events he has made up his mind, and he is the last man to waver when he has once come to a decision.

It is exceedingly gratifying to learn that the Maine Republicans are not to be deprived of the fruits of their victory by the peculiar provision in their State Constitution which makes it necessary that a successful candidate for Governor shall have not only more votes than any rival but more than all his competitors put together. If it should turn out on the receipt of the full returns that Mr. Davis lacks a few hundred votes of a clear majority over Smith and Garcelon and the men who get a few scattering votes, the Legislature, which is Republican in both branches, will elect him. There was doubt about the complexion of the Senate until last night, but the latest dispatches show that Republican control of that body is assured, in spite of the fusion of the Greenbackers and Democrats in all the Senatorial districts. In case of a failure of an election by the people, the House selects from the four candidates highest in the poll two names, and sends them to the Senate, and from them the Senate chooses the Governor. Then the Legislature by joint ballot elects the Governor's Council. As the Council fills the subordinate State offices, the Republicans will recover full control of all branches of the State Government. Thus the unprincipled coalition between the Democrats and Solon Chase's inflation party is wholly barren of results, and the Republicans regain the supremacy which they held without interruption for twenty-two years prior to 1878. Their victory is substantial and complete.

The picturesque groups of zealous and bumptious Democratic politicians, with a fondness for sidewalk argument and a weakness for bar-room stimulants, now gathered at Syracuse in advance of the State Convention, are admirably sketched in our special dispatches. The party leaders, with the exception of Lieutenant-Governor Dorsheimer, who is "a good mixer," do not mingle much in these throngs of the rank and file, but are closeted in their rooms at the hotels, making up slates and tallying off the delegates on paper into the two hostile factions which will strive to-day for the mastery. The Tammany crowd is making the most noise about the streets and hotels, but it is plain that their only weapons for beating Governor Robinson are bluster and threats. All doubt as to the ability of the Robinson men to control the Convention was removed yesterday by the arrival of the Kings County delegation, who announced that they had been for Tilden in the past and would support his representative now. The story that they intended to bring out General Slocum as a dark horse was exploded by that gentleman himself. According to the Robinson slate the Governor will get 230 votes on the first ballot, which is 37 more than enough to nominate him. The only open questions connected with the Convention would seem to be, first, how ugly a fight John Kelly and his adherents will make to-day; and second, what they will do after their defeat. That they will carry their hostility so far as to hold a bolting Convention is hardly to be expected, for few of their country adherents would join them in such an open act of rebellion. Probably they will do nothing worse than snarl and growl during the canvass.

THE VICTORY IN MAINE.
 Later, and fuller returns from Maine make it evident that the Republicans in that State have handsomely beaten their combined opponents. As to some details, the completeness of the victory is not made clear, but there is no room to doubt that all the substantial fruits of victory rest with the defenders of the National supremacy and the National faith. The contest has been fought by the Republicans on a high plane. They have maintained the right of the Nation to enforce its laws, to protect its ballot-boxes and its credit, and to resist to the end revolutionary attempts on the part of a bare majority in Congress to usurp powers which the Executive constitutionally shares. The importance of this issue has been asserted by all the Republican orators, even while devoting their time and efforts mainly to the uprooting of financial heresies. On the money question, probably no State has ever been more thoroughly aroused by discussion. When the Republicans were defeated last year by the rapid spread of soft-money heresies, they saw at once that it was necessary to do missionary work. Truth in hand, they have gone to the people, in their school districts and villages, in their shops and on their farms, and have labored with rare good sense and energy to educate voters to an intelligent acceptance of Republican principles. That sort of work always pays. It has crushed down opposition in Ohio again and again, and the Republicans of Maine, who were not willing to believe until last year that the people of that State could prove false to their own interests and unfaithful to the public honor, have given a new evidence of the power of truth clearly and patiently presented.

There are examples in the conduct of this campaign which are worthy of close study by the Republicans of other States. First of all, care was taken to make a complete political census of the State, to ascertain the number, names and locations of all stay-at-home Republicans and doubtful voters, and to know precisely what work had to be done, and where. Difficult as this task has seemed in many States, it cannot be more difficult anywhere than it was in Maine, where some of the Republican leaders thought it impossible. But it makes all the difference in the world, as the Irish marksmen found at Creedmoor, whether a good shot is aimed at the right or the wrong target, and political effort without a thorough knowledge of the work to be done is like shooting at a mark blindfold. Next, the Republicans put into practical operation a method which has been often urged by sensible men, but rarely tried with fairness; they caused to be sent regularly to 15,000 voters in the State a strong Republican paper for several weeks. Afterward meetings were held by the thousand, in every nook and corner of the State. And finally, every Republican was aroused to use his personal influence with his neighbors, and

to make himself a missionary in the good cause. The victory has not come by accident, and it is all the sweeter because it has been earned. It would not be just to omit mention of the fact that this triumph has been largely due to the rare generalship, the wonderful organizing power, and the untiring effort of James G. Blaine. Where all have done their utmost, there is always the least disposition to grudge the honor that is due to him who took upon himself the heaviest part of the load and carried it to the victorious end. But the magnificent working-power, the rare enthusiasm, and the quick insight of this born leader of men, were never displayed more fully than in this contest, and those who think that "Blaine is dead" may profitably study the returns.

The effect of this victory upon the Presidential election cannot be measured. Of course, it will not put an end to the Greenback heresy elsewhere, but it will teach hard-money Democrats and sincere Republicans several things that they ought to know. It teaches that soft-money heresies cannot safely be ignored, or passed in considerate silence. The wild fanaticism of inflation and of Communistic ideas must be openly, sternly and unsparringly combated, if it is to be resisted anywhere with success. Republicans who have been trying to evade these issues, and Democrats who have been lending encouragement while reputation was preached, may as well study the experience of Maine. The Democrats, especially, can see in the wrecked and hopeless condition of their party in Maine, where Greenbackism has virtually devoured and destroyed it, abundant proof that they cannot afford to lend themselves to disloyal and dishonest schemes for the sake of a temporary success. It will probably be seen that the hard-money Democrats in Ohio will be aroused, by the fate of coquetry with reputation in Maine, to a bold and determined effort to make an end of Ewing and his heresies. Everywhere, at any rate, Republicans will be encouraged to greater fidelity to the public honor. Everywhere they will be taught the necessity of relying, not upon the past, but upon solid work and patient education of the people. And from every quarter of the land, with their shouts of joy, will go hearty thanks to the victorious Republicans of Maine.

THE STRACUSE CONVENTION.

The Democratic Convention which meets at Syracuse may not improbably determine the future of the party for some years. Under ordinary circumstances, it is folly to expect that Democrats who quarrel before a nomination will not be found voting together at the election. When men differ only about the division of the spoils, as in every case, the Democrats do, it usually happens that the beaten party concludes that "half a loaf is better than no bread," and sticks to the organization in order to have a better claim for half a loaf in future. In this case, however, the fight is about the spoils only, but there is no chance of half a loaf for the beaten party. It is "war to the knife, and the knife to the hilt," not because the chief combatants wish it, perhaps, but because the circumstances are such that they cannot possibly avoid it. For one or the other, for Mr. Tilden or for Mr. Kelly, this battle must end in political extinction, and they both know it. If Governor Robinson should be nominated and elected, there is no room to doubt that he would break up Tammany Hall completely, and forever destroy its influence in the party. Mr. Kelly and his associates, therefore, have something to gain but nothing to lose; it is possible for them to force the Democrats of the State to fear their power and their pluck, but it is not possible, by any conceivable yielding, to avert the death-blow which would fall if Governor Robinson should be elected again, nor to modify, in any other way than by inspiring a selfish fear, the hatred which the country Democrats already feel toward Tammany.

Mr. Tilden's case is not less difficult. If he yields, and permits Governor Robinson to be set aside at the threat of Tammany, he knows well that the same threat will be made, with infinitely greater power, to set him aside as a Presidential candidate. If he yields now, he tells the whole world that his supporters cannot carry New-York, and do not dare to try, against the opposition of Tammany. In that case, he knows that the scalping-knife will be sharpened for him, and used without pity. On the other hand, if he nominates Governor Robinson and gets beaten in the State, his prestige will be much impaired. But on that side he has a possible way of escape; he can still claim that he alone, as candidate for the highest office in the gift of the people, can carry the State, and that Tammany would not venture, in a Presidential election, to attack him. All the indications are that Mr. Tilden means to take the latter chance, insist upon the nomination of Governor Robinson, and then demand a nomination for the Presidency on the ground that no one else can possibly carry this State.

Apparently Mr. Tilden is influenced in some degree by the fact that Governor Robinson can no longer be put aside without arousing his hostility and the most bitter feeling among his supporters. With him it has become a personal matter. His feeling is like that of one who said that "he could face death with some equanimity, in any ordinary form, but he did not propose to be 'kicked to death by that mule.' If Governor Robinson could get out of harm's way with honor, perhaps he might be willing; but to be kicked out of the Governorship by Tammany—that he cannot endure. The Democrats of the country districts, too, have intense feelings on the subject, and it is quite probable that when Mr. Tilden was warned by the Western Democrats that he must harmonize his party in New-York, and began to consider how he could gracefully thrust Governor Robinson to the rear, he discovered that the bitterness of feeling which such a step must cause would do him more harm than an open defeat at the hands of Tammany.

"It is a very pretty quarrel as it stands," but Republicans have no business to count upon it, in any degree whatever, for their own success. They can carry this State by such faithful, tireless, earnest work as has been done by the Republicans of Maine, even though all the Democrats should be united with the strongest possible ticket. They have no right, then, to omit any part of that effort in the hope that Democratic divisions will help them. The chances are always greatly against such a division of Democratic voters at the polls, and, though this may be the one chance in a thousand, Republicans would be guilty of extreme folly if they should trust to it. This warning will apply with equal force and truth, even though there should be a formal split in the Convention at Syracuse. At any hour prior to the election it will still be possible for the Democrats to patch up their differences, because there is

not the slightest antagonism of belief or principle at the bottom. Mr. Tilden is fighting, without any scruple, for the Presidency and the vast patronage which that office will place at his command. Mr. Kelly is fighting for the maintenance of his control over the government and patronage of this city. It is purely a quarrel about division of the plunder. Neither faction has any political principles or convictions, so far as the public can discover, that it would not instantly sacrifice for a larger handful of the spoils. When Republicans differ and divide, it is about grave questions of public duty, and they are not easily reconciled. But Democrats who have made open war on each other, on account of differences as to a division of the plunder, can be brought into perfect harmony in an instant if that one vital question can be settled by compromise. The duty of Republicans is to take every honorable step necessary to carry this State, no matter what the Democrats may do. Then, if they divide, there will be at the least some temporary lack of zeal among them.

A REPUBLICAN ANNIVERSARY.

The Massachusetts Republicans will celebrate this evening, at Worcester, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the Republican party, and will, according to the suggestion of the circular address issued by the State Committee, "revive the tender and glorious memories of the past, and take counsel for the duties and triumphs of the future." The same address claims that during its existence the Republican party has abolished slavery; has subdued a gigantic rebellion; has paid seven hundred millions of the National debt; has enforced apology and reparation from Great Britain; has made the National currency equal in value to gold the world over; and, in short, has exhibited "a model of wise, honest, humane and economical government," especially in Massachusetts. No fault need be found with these assumptions.

The history of the party, in the main, is one of which its members need not be ashamed. There have been mistakes about measures and mistakes about men; and some credit is also due to the whole country without regard to party distinctions. Whatever may be said to the discredit of the Republican party, there are no such blot on its record as those which disgrace that of its principal opponent. The Democrats during the civil war, considered as a body, were undoubtedly in a difficult position, but it cannot be said that the best was made of it. With some honorable exceptions, its members were either lukewarm or avowedly disloyal. Moreover, the Republican party, mainly organized to prevent the extension of slavery, was very firm upon that ground, and true to that idea for some years before the war. It was then as now, a party the rank and file of which were honest and conscientious. It had the right upon its side, and, of course, the other side was in the wrong. With prosperity and maturity inevitably came errors and vices; but as no man is always and infallibly right, so no party can always be so. When the history of the Republican party shall be written, no part of it will be more interesting and instructive than that of its internal differences. It has always been full of men who held partisan allegiance lightly. It was born of a bolt; it was made up originally of men who were dissatisfied with the action and character of the older organizations; and it has always itself been subject to such desertions. Every soldier in it has felt that under certain circumstances his sword was his own. When the party began first to coalesce, it was sneered at in Massachusetts as a Conscience party; and such it undoubtedly was there, and to a considerable extent elsewhere, especially in the West. To-day it would not be possible to hold it together for even one more National election, if a majority of its members did not believe